



Government of Nunavut

Key Highlights

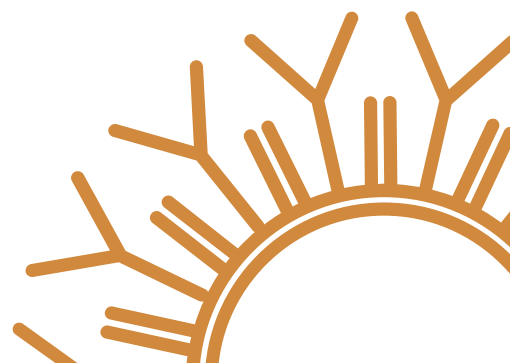
The *Arnait Tulliningit: Women's Leadership Forum* took place August 22-24, 2021, in Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet and focused on empowering and building the capacity of women and girls to take on leadership and decision-making roles within their communities. Inuit women across Nunavut expressed the need for activities focusing on leadership development to build the foundation for greater action on gender equality and social change in Nunavut – the Government of Nunavut (GN) is responding to this need. 13 communities were represented with a total of 25 participants from across the territory.

In March 2022, GN Department of Health announced its commitment to providing medically necessary health care that aims to address the mental health of Nunavummiut when it comes to sexual health, including for the first time, health services for transgender and non-binary Nunavummiut. All individuals that meet the criteria are eligible for full funding including mental health services and costs of transition-related treatments. These are very specialized services, and the Department of Health is working with the Centre Métropolitain de Chirurgie in Montreal, currently, one of only three clinics in Canada that provide transition-related surgeries, to ensure Nunavummiut have access to these important services.

A successful application for the Rapid Housing Initiative 2.0 drew an additional \$75 million in territorial and federal funding for constructing 101 public housing units. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is already building these units in Iqaluit, Hall Beach, Kimmirut, Nauyasat, Kugaaruk and Pond Inlet. The housing will serve Inuit, with 50 per cent of the units dedicated to women and their children. This follows the successful conclusion of negotiations over the \$18 million Canada Housing Benefit to support more than 670 low-income households through programming to be delivered through the Department of Family Services.

Progress/Success

- Collaboration with Departments across the territorial government to determine what, if any, existing programs and services may already address the Inuit Specific Calls to action (partially or in full).
- GN participated in a Working Group alongside Pauktuutit and the Law Society of Nunavut on access to justice for family violence in Nunavut. The document produced focuses on research and includes a report on its awareness campaign.
- GN has provided funding for increased shelter and transition housing- Through the Kitikmeot Friendship Society, Cambridge Bay opened its first transition housing for women and as a youth shelter.
- GN Department of Justice received funding from Justice Canada to administer Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU). The unit provides services and support to families affected by MMIWG, including:
 - Coordinating service delivery between families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and other territorial and national agencies.
 - Supporting families' access to information from various entities such as the Nunavut Court of Justice, Coroner's Office, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Department of Family Services and Department of Health.
 - Helping families access culturally relevant services to assist their healing journey.



- The Family Information Liaison Unit's work aligns with the National Action Plan's Common Short-Term Priorities 2b: *"Comprehensive approach to support Indigenous victims and families/friends of Indigenous murdered or missing persons, such as victim services, family information liaison units, legal services, access to coroner/hospital reports, media, etc."*
- Human Trafficking resources: Department of Justice has established Victim of Crime Emergency Fund, for travel costs to return to their home Nunavut community, and the purchase of emergency supplies and prescription medication.

Next Steps/Priorities

- In the coming year, Nunavut will begin working towards drafting an Action Plan to address the Inuit-specific calls to action. This will be done in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Qullit Nunavut Status of Women. This Plan will outline areas that have already been addressed, areas where work is ongoing and areas that need to be focused on moving forward.
- Continue to call on Canada to extend the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program (FNIPP) to Nunavut.

Reports/Publications

Access to Justice for Family Violence in Nunavut: Final Report on Research and Awareness Campaign – https://www.lawsociety.nu.ca/sites/default/files/public/Access-to-Justice/Preliminary_Findings_Report.pdf

